region of God! Miss Remond further treated her subject, and in concluding said she intended to have said more, but her strength failed her.

At the conclusion, Mrs. Ashton\(^1\) advanced towards Miss Remond, and after addressing her in a few most affectionate sentiments, said she felt proud to acknowledge her as a sister, and she, in common with her sex present, entertained the most heartfelt sympathy with her in the object she proposed to herself to endeavour to carry out. As a slight expression of their sympathy and esteem, she begged, on the part of the ladies of Warrington, to present her with a watch, on which was inscribed,

"Presented to S. P. Remond by Englishwomen, her sisters, in Warrington. February 2nd, 1850."

**Miss Remond** was so taken by surprise at this manifestation of feeling towards her that her utterance was for some moments prevented by her emotions. At length she said, I do not need this testimonial. I have been received here as a sister by white women for the first time in my life. I have been removed from the degradation which overhangs all persons of my complexion; and I have felt most deeply that since I have been in Warrington and in England that I have received a sympathy I never was offered before. I had therefore no need of this testimonial of sympathy, but I receive it as the representative of my race with pleasure. In this spirit I accept it, and I believe I shall be faithful to that race now and for ever.

*Warrington Times* (England), 5 February 1859.


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**Circular by Robert Campbell**

13 May 1859

Black abolitionist-emigrationist Robert Campbell arrived in Britain during the spring of 1859 seeking funds to finance an African expedition. Campbell had joined Martin R. Delany, the leading American emigrationist, as a member of the Niger Valley Exploring Party—an agency founded to coordinate the establishment of an "industrial settlement" in Yoruba, West Africa. On 13 May 1859, Campbell issued a circular advertising his desire for support and describing the settlement's potential as a source of free labor cotton. The proposal appealed to the Manchester cotton merchant Thomas Clegg, who gave Campbell a letter of introduction; Clegg recommended the project as "the most feasible plan of helping on my scheme of superseding Slavery, by letting the African grow in his own country what every one wants him to grow elsewhere." Campbell eventually raised $500 and, on 24 June, sailed for Africa to meet Delany. Campbell's successful fund-raising foray was the beginning of an effective effort by a handful of black abolitionist-emigrationists to generate British commercial backing for their plans by linking those plans with the African goals of British cotton interests. Miller, *Search for Black Nationality*, 179–82, 198, 206–7.

**Expedition to Africa,**

**To Promote the Cultivation of Cotton and Other Products of Slave-Labour,**

**By Emigrants from America.**

A party, consisting of Martin R. Delany, M.D., Robert Campbell, J. W. Purnell, Robert Douglass, and Amos Aray, M.D. (the last two subsequently omitted), has been commissioned by a Convention of Coloured Persons, held at Chatham, C. W., to proceed to Africa, and select a location for the establishment of an Industrial Colony.

While such an enterprise is of importance in the Evangelization and Civilization of Africa, and in affording an asylum in which the oppressed descendants of that country may find the means of developing their mental and moral faculties unimpaired by unjust restrictions, it is regarded as of still greater importance in facilitating the production of those staples, particularly Cotton, which now are supplied to the world chiefly by Slave Labour. The effect of this would be to lessen the profits of Slavery, to render in time the slave a burden to his owner, and thus furnish an irresistible motive to Emancipation. Africa possesses resources which, properly developed, must doubtless render her eventually a great, if not the greatest, producer of all the products of Slave Labour.
And how would all good men rejoice to see the blow which shall effectually prostrate the giant Slavery, struck by the Black Man's arm! It is necessary, however, that civilized influences be diffused in her midst, or, at least, that facilities for rendering available her products, be supplied equal to the demand for them.

It is the purpose of the party to proceed to Lagos, thence through Abeokuta to Rabba, on the Niger, about 350 miles from the coast, to study the Agricultural and Commercial facilities of the country, and the disposition of the Natives towards strangers as settlers: also to negotiate for the grant or purchase of land, and to ascertain the conditions on which we might be protected in the usages of civilized life.

These objects accomplished, the party will return and report the result of their labours, when a considerable number of intelligent and enterprising persons from the United States and Canada, many of them intimately acquainted with the production of Cotton, and its preparation for market, will be prepared to emigrate.

Towards defraying the expenses of this undertaking, £500 has been subscribed in America. This amount has been expended in providing for the families of two of the party in their absence; in paying the passage of Martin R. Delany and J. W. Purnell to Africa, direct from America, and providing them a few articles of outfit; in defraying the current expenses of the party since the 1st December ult., while engaged in soliciting Subscriptions, and otherwise forwarding the objects of the Expedition; and in providing the Subscriber with the means of coming hither.

It is desired to raise in this country, in time to enable the Subscriber to depart for Africa in June by the steamer from Liverpool, an additional sum of £250, with which to provide other articles of outfit, and goods for trading with the natives for the means of subsistence, as well as to provide for other necessary and contingent expenses.

The Subscriber will take the liberty of calling upon you personally, at an early day, to solicit your aid in this enterprise.

ROBERT CAMPBELL
Manchester
May 13th, 1859


1. Martin R. Delany (1812–1885) was born free in Charlestown, Virginia, the second son of a free seamstress named Patti and a plantation slave named Samuel. Delany's mother was taught reading and writing, and he was forced to leave the family and work in Chalmersburg, Pennsylvania. In 1823 he helped purchase his wife's freedom. At age nineteen, Martin Delany moved to Pittsburgh, enrolled in Lewis Woodson's African Educational Society School (1832), and, a year later, began a three-year apprenticeship with a local doctor. He estab-

lished himself as a significant figure within the Pittsburgh black community. He belonged to a number of black self-help organizations, was a member of the Philanthropic Society (a group formed to protect fugitive slaves), and led attempts to recover black suffrage in Pennsylvania. He also worked for the Liberty party.

In 1843 Delany founded and edited the _Mystery_ —a respected, weekly abolitionist newspaper that addressed social, economic, and political issues affecting black Americans. Delany discontinued the paper early in 1847 and, in December, joined Frederick Douglass as coeditor of _The North Star, _a position he held until 1849 when he resigned and returned to his Pittsburgh medical practice. After being rejected by a number of medical schools, Delany was accepted at Harvard in 1850, but student protests brought his dismissal from the program after a single term. Within a year, he had written _The Condition, Elevation, Emigration and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States Politically Considered_ —a brief for emigration and black nationalism. In August 1854, Delany met with 106 delegates in Cleveland, Ohio, to consider immigration to Central America, South America, or the West Indies. Delany moved to Canada West early in 1856 and planned for a second convention, which met in Cleveland that August and marked a new direction in emigration thinking.

From 1856 to 1858, Delany focused on Africa and made plans to launch the Niger Valley Exploring Party, an executive agency for establishing a free labor settlement in Africa. Delany and Philadelphia schoolteacher Robert Campbell sought the necessary funds. The American Colonization Society sponsored Delany's passage to Liberia in the late spring of 1859. In December 1859, the two men acquired land for a settlement through a treaty with the Akans (king) of Abeokuta. They journeyed in May 1860 to England, where Delany conducted a successful seven-month speaking tour, describing his African plans and experiences.

When he returned to the United States, he became increasingly involved in the Union war effort as a recruiting agent for black soldiers and, in 1865, was the first black officer commissioned to serve with a black regiment. Delany remained in the military for three-and-a-half years, working with the Freedmen's Bureau. In 1870 Delany briefly joined the staff of the _New National Era, _a Washington, D.C., newspaper, before resettling in Charleston, South Carolina. From 1870 to 1875, Delany was active in Republican party politics, tried to develop a homestead plan for freedmen (1872), and briefly edited the Charleston Independent (1875) before serving a three-year term as a minor court official during the tenure of Democratic Governor Wade Hampton. In 1878–79 Delany supported a short-lived emigration effort known as the Liberian Exodus Joint Stock Steamship Company. Delany wrote the novel _Blake; or The Huts of America_ , which was serialized in the _Weekly Anglo-American_ beginning in 1859. Ullman, _Martin R. Delany, _1–507; Miller, _Search for Black Nationality, _116–225, 265–67; Frank A. Rollin, _Life and Public Services of Martin R. Delany _(Boston, Mass., 1868; reprint, New York, N.Y., 1969), 306; Dorothy Sterling, _The Making of An Afro-American: Martin Robison Delany, _1812–1885 _(Garden City, N.Y., 1971), 48–55.

2. Robert Campbell (?–1884) was born in Kingston, Jamaica, the son of an African-English mother and Scottish father. As a young man, Campbell was apprenticed to a printer and attended a teacher-training college before becoming a parish schoolmaster in Kingston. Campbell resettled his family in Central Amer-